## (SEE ALSO PROPOSED 2ND SUB)

Recognizes: (1) The substantial and great impact upon society, families, children, and the victims of offenses occurring between cohabitants;

- (2) The continuing nature of domestic violence; and
- (3) The lasting psychological trauma caused by such violence.

Finds that the prevention of domestic violence, and the proper punishment for such offenses, is a compelling state interest that has not been under current sentencing provisions. Toward this end, the act is necessary to ensure that domestic violence offenders are punished accordingly and that an end to domestic violence can be achieved.